

In this battle TITUS BALVENTIUS, who the previous year had been chief centurion of his legion, a brave and highly respected man, had both his thighs pierced by a javeline; another centurion of the same rank, QUINTUS LUCANIUS, was killed in a very courageous attempt to rescue his son, who had been surrounded, and Cotta himself, while engaged in cheering on each cohort and company, was wounded by a slingstone which struck him full in the face.

54BC Destruction of SABIUS' ARMY by the EBUKONES

The harvest that year in Gaul was poor
Caesar was compelled to distribute the legions
among a larger number of tribes

General GAUS Fabius to MORINI

QUINTUS Tullius Cicero to the Nervii

Lucius Roscius to the ESSUVII

Labienus in the country of the Remi
3 more in Belgic territory under
quaesitor Marcus Cossus and the
generals Lucius Munatius Plancus
and Gaius Trebonius

Caesar's commands, and asked him to protect MANDUBRACIUS from Cassivellaunus and send him home to rule this people as king. Caesar demanded forty hostages and grain for his troops, and then allowed MANDUBRACIUS to go. The TRINOVANTES promptly sent the required number of hostages and the grain.

Several other Saxon tribes, the CENIMAGNI, SEGONTIACI, ANCAUTES, BIBROCI, and CASSI, sent embassies and surrendered.

Caesar assaulted the stronghold of Cassivellaunus.

Cassivellaunus ordered 4 kings CINGETORIX, CARVILIUS, TAXIMAGDULUS and SEGOVAX to send all their troops and make a surprise attack on the naval camp. The Romans made a sortie in which without suffering any loss they killed a great many and captured LUGOTORIX, a leader of noble birth. Cassivellaunus employed Commius as an intermediary to Caesar. The summer was nearly over. Caesar demanded hostages, fixing an annual tribute to be paid

by the Britons to the Roman Government. As soon as the hostages were delivered he marched the army back to the coast, where he found the ships repaired. He had many hostages - decided to go over in 2 trips. Caesar waited a long time for them to return - in vain. Caesar was afraid of being prevented from sailing by the approaching season of the equinox and so packed them in more lightly. The sea becoming very calm, he set sail late in the evening and brought all the fleet safely to land at dawn.

54 BC

after finding the Thames, ^{the crossing} CASSIVELLAUNUS had now given up all hope of fighting a pitched battle. Disbanding the greater part of his troops, he retained only some 4000 charioteers, with whom he watched Caesar's line of march. If the Roman cavalry ventured too far, the Briton Charioteers would deliver formidable attacks. During the march, envoys arrived from TRINOVANTES. MANDUBRACIUS, a young prince of this tribe, had gone over to the continent & put himself under Caesar's protection, having fled for his life when his father the King of the TRINOVANTES was killed by Cassivellaunus. The envoys promised to surrender and obey

and killed. They charged. Colta
fell fighting where he stood and most
of the soldiers with him.

The rest had hard work to with-
stand the enemy's onslaught till
nightfall. In the night seeing
that all hope was gone, every
single man committed suicide.

A few who had escaped from
the battle made their way by

scarcely distinguishable woodland
tracks to Taberna's camp and told
him what happened.

54 BC

Sabinus' army

Sabinus was so much alarmed by these events that in catching sight of AMBIBORIX, he sent his interpreter GNAEUS POMPEIUS to ask for quarters for himself and his soldiers.

Sabinus ordered the military tribunes who were with him at the moment, and the first grade centurions, to follow him. On approaching AMBIBORIX he was told to lay down his arms. He obeyed, and commanded the others to do the same. While talking to AMBIBORIX, they were gradually surrounded

One of the legions recently raised in the country north of the Po, and a further detachment of 5 cohorts, were sent under the command of Sabines and Catia to the EBURONES, who live principally between the Meuse and the Rhine, and were at the time ruled by AMBIORIX and CATUVOLCUS.

After a fortnight open revolt was suddenly started by the EBURONIANS AMBIORIX and CATUVOLCUS

Making a sudden attack on a party collecting wood, they came with a large force to assault the camp. The legionaries quickly armed and mounted the ramparts, and some Spanish horsemen who were sent out by one of the gates were victorious in a cavalry engagement. The EBURONES retired & shouted they wanted to Parley. AMBIORIX tricked them into leaving their camp. When they were strung out & overloaded with baggage AMBIORIX ambushed them